McLay, Walter Scott Williams [Dean in Arts, McMaster University] Oct 1914 - June 1915

October 20th, 1914

Professor McLay,

McMaster University.

Dear Professor McLay:

I saw Dr. Seath with regard to the contents of the new bachelor of science course in Agriculture, particularly in the third and fourth years. This outline was recommended by President Creelman, and it will be necessary therefore I believe for us as Universities to take it up with the Agricultural College when Dr. Creelman returns, unless we can arrange with Professor Zavitz before that.

I think that we as Universities shall have to accept in the meantime the teaching in English provided by Professor Reynolds, and also their Economics, for which I believe they have a man. President Creelman suggested at the Conference that the Government might be willing to add a man who could take History . If they would do that they would solve this difficulty.

Yours sincerely,

President.

McMASTER UNIVERSITY

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OFFICE OF
THE DEAN IN ARTS

TORONTO, CANADA

November 16th, 1914.

President Falconer,

University of Toronto,

Toronto.

Dear President Falconer:-

I attended the University Sermon yesterday and greatly enjoyed hearing President Fitch preach. He understands the mind of the undergraduate and knows how to fit his message to the needs of students. We should all have gladly heard him at greater length, but he evidently timed his discourse to close almost on the stroke of twelve, as is the almost invariable custom at Harvard.

May I venture to point out what seems to me a serious omission in the University prayer? It asks God's blessing on King George, Queen Mary, the Queen Mother Alexandra, the Prince of Wales, the Governor General of Canada, and the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, but omits the Prime Ministers of Great Britain, Canada, and Ontario, all of whom bear the real burdens of government far more truly than do Kings and Governors. It seems to me that the University might well specify them and the Ministers as a body in addition to the latter, and thereby bring the public prayers more into conformity with the real facts and with what I should think must be the real feelings of the worshippers. Later in the prayer, where the war was referred to, the counsellors of the Empire were mentioned, but even then the reference was only in a very brief phrase, and apparently it does not form an integral part of the prayer in time of peace.

Trusting that you may not think me presumptuous

in writing you and hoping that you may share my feeling,

I beg to remain,

Yours truly,

W. L. W. McLay

November 17th, 1914

Professor M. S. McLay,

McMaster University,

Toronto.

Dear Sir:

In the absence of President Falconer I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th regarding one of the prayers used at the University service. Your letter will receive the attention of the President on his return from the West.

I am enclosing an "Order of Service".

Yours very truly,

President's Secretary.

December 1st, 1914

Professor W. S. McLay,

McMaster University,

Toronto.

Dear Professor McLay:

Many thanks for your letter which I find on my return home. I shall be glad to mention at the Sermons' Committee your suggestion with regard to the extension of the prayer. It appeals to me as a very good one. With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

December 3rd, 1914

Professor W. S. McLay,

McMaster University,

Toronto.

My dear Professor McLay:

Many thanks for your letter and also for the clipping from "The Spectator", which is very much to the point. Of course it is extremely difficult to get competent teachers of German. All of us who have endeavoured to find them know how difficult the task is. I hope that we may be able to come through this matter in a satisfactory way.

With kind regards,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

June 30th, 1915

Professor McLay,

McMaster University,

Toronto.

Dear Professor McLay:

Mr. F. V. Riethdorf of Woodstock College is applying for a position in German. Can you give me any information about him as to his qualifications as a teacher and his quality as a man ? I should be glad to hear from you at your early convenience. I hope that you will have a pleasant vacation. With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.